

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND DECISION NOTICE
FOR THE
TERRIAULT CREEK RIPARIAN REVEGETATION PROJECT

September 16, 2019

Project Proposal and Justification:

Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks partnered with The Kootenai River Network (KRN), the USFWS Partners for Wildlife, and the local landowner to complete the Therriault Creek Restoration Project during the summer of 2005. This project reconstructed a total of 9,100 feet of entirely new stream channel that restored the stream channel, and approximately doubled the stream length by increasing meander frequency. Since 2005, MFWP has implemented three phases of revegetation efforts to increase woody vegetation cover. Previous revegetation efforts have been successful, but natural woody revegetation is slow to expand into untreated areas of the project. MFWP proposes to build on previously demonstrated successful techniques to continue the restoration of riparian restoration at the Therriault Creek Restoration Project site. The proposed project includes implementing three types of treatments to increase woody vegetation cover and improve overall riparian/floodplain function.

Location of Project:

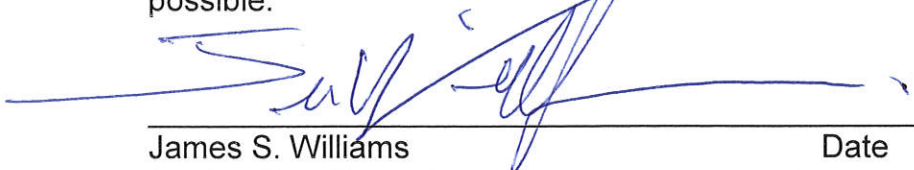
This project will be constructed on Therriault Creek, located approximately 5 miles northeast of the city of Eureka, Montana. Specifically, the project is located within Township 35 North, Range 25 West, Section 3, in Lincoln County. The project will occur entirely on private land.

Public Involvement:

In compliance with the Montana Environmental Policy Act, Montana FWP solicited public comment from August 9 through September 10, 2019. Notices were placed in three local newspapers, and notification was mailed to local landowners affected by the project, local conservation groups, local timber companies, selected businesses, and natural resource agencies. MFWP proposes to fund the completion of this project with funding received from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). BPA previously completed an environmental impact statement that analyzed the effects of similar projects (<https://www.bpa.gov/efw/Analysis/NEPADocuments/Pages/Watershed-Management.aspx>). MFWP will tier to this document. We did not receive any comments on this environmental assessment.

Decision Notice:

Based on the lack of comments we received during the public comment period for the Therriault Creek Revegetation Project and the benefits this project will bring to Therriault Creek, it is my decision to approve the proposed project. The draft EA will be adopted as the final EA and this Decision Notice will serve as the final documents pertaining to this action. Due to the urgent need to increase riparian vegetation that will promote further ecological function and fisheries habitat at the Therriault Creek Restoration Site, I recommend that the proposed project be implemented as soon as possible.



James S. Williams
Region One Supervisor

Date

9/16/19